

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
ILLINOIS LAND SURVEYORS LICENSING BOARD

**Open Minutes**

Illinois Land Surveyors Licensing Board

Date: May 27, 2021  
Convened: 9:33 am  
Adjourned: 10:47 am  
Location: WebEx

Members Present: James W. Abbitt Jr., Chair  
Gale E. Hake, Member  
John G. Huff, Public Member  
C. Brian Lounsbury, Member  
Kim Lyons, Member  
Carol Sweet-Johnson, Member

Member(s) Absent: Michael Filipski, Vice-Chair

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager  
Haley Lowrance, IDFPR General Counsel  
Eduardo Fernandez, IDFPR Prosecuting Attorney  
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Design Profession Investigator

Guests Present: Ryan Roth, IPLSA  
Kim Robinson, IPLSA

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 9:33 am.  
Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**I. Board Member  
Announcements,  
comments**

Mr. Abbitt welcomed everyone and asked if there were any Board announcements or comments.

*No announcements presented to the Board.*

**II. Guest Announcements,  
comments**

Mr. Roth shared that IPLSA received the Boards' recommended Illinois Jurisdictional Exam reference materials list, was reviewed by the IPLSA Executive Board and the Governmental Affairs committee and concluded that the list included good publications for future Illinois surveyors to study from and would be acceptable to IPLSA.

Ms. Sweet-Johnson indicated she would relay this information to the exam review committee and CTS during their meeting when it is convened.

### III. Licensing Manager Report

- A. FY22 CRC Schedule Mr. Lazell notified the Board that he recently sent the FY22 CRC meeting schedule to the members to show who has signed up thus far as a delegate for the CRC meetings.
- B. Legislative News Mr. Lazell shared that there are few legislative Bills for the Board to be aware of.
- HB 2776 – Military Licensure. Will provide an expedited process for licensure.
- HB 1738 – Interior Design Registration. This is the Sunset renewal Bill for the profession. Passed in the House, currently being read in the Senate. No known issues/conflict for this profession.
- HB 0246 – Landscape Architect Registration. Bill to re-regulate profession. Passed in the House, Senate committee has postponed it at this time.

- IV. Review of Open Minutes The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lounsbury) and passed to accept the minutes of the meeting as written. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

### V. Unfinished Business

- A. Continued Discussion on Decoupling Mr. Lazell provided a summary of the proposal and shared with the Board two new items for the Board to consider.
- One being an email conversation with Tim Miller at NCEES about possible pass-rate concerns NCEES had in terms of decoupling and allowing candidates to take the respective exams prior to the education/experience requirement.
- The second item being a notification from IPLSA that they would be in favor of decoupling, provided that certain safeguards remain in effect and the candidate meets all requirements at the time of application. Additionally, they recommended that the exam approvals be updated to allow candidates who are in Senior standing in college may sit for the FS examination and candidates

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who have a conferred BS degree may sit for the PS and ILJ examinations. IPLSA further recommended that the experience requirement be modified so that the experience begins after conferral of the BS degree.

Mr. Lazell commented that the IPLSA recommendations would be in line with the two Illinois Engineering professions as well as with a trending national standard for the surveyor profession and is something that he personally would like to see implemented.

Mr. Lounsbury asked if any members had any objections to the decoupling proposal.

Hearing no objections, Mr. Abbitt asked if there was a motion to approve the proposal to decouple the examinations. Mr. Lazell interjected and asked if the Board would consider tabling the motion until the July meeting so that the absent member may comment on the topic prior to making a motion.

Mr. Abbitt thanked Mr. Lazell and asked that this item be added to the agenda for the July meeting for further discussion.

## **VI. Report from Subcommittees**

### **A. Complaint Review Committee/subcommittee**

Complaint Review Committee/subcommittee  
Mr. Abbitt reported on the May 20, 2021 meeting.

Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the March 2021 CRC meetings for each profession:

Architect: Opened 6, Closed 0, Referred 11  
LS: Opened 2, Closed 2, Referred 1  
PE: Opened 5 Closed 0, Referred 6  
SE: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred 3  
PDF: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 15  
LS – 10  
PE – 18  
SE - 6  
PDF – 0

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect – 26

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LS – 5

PE – 18

SE – 9

B. Jurisdictional Exam Sub-Committee

Ms. Sweet-Johnson deferred to Mr. Lazell to provide an update.

Mr. Lazell said he was part of a WebEx meeting between the Department and CTS regarding the formation of the exam review committee. During the meeting, it was determined that out of concern for a possible conflict of interest issue, Mike Filipski could not serve on the exam review committee and another Board member would need to replace him. He indicated that he contacted Mr. Hake to see if he would be willing to serve on the committee and Mr. Hake stated he would be willing to serve.

Mr. Lazell said that Ron Rodgers would be formulating a list of potential exam review committee members to join the two Board members on the official exam review committee to provide an overview of the general requirements for an exam review.

Following that meeting, the exam review committee will compile the survey questions and then send the survey sent out to all active surveyors in Illinois and surrounding states.

Upon receiving and compiling the responses back, the committee will review the results and move forward with reviewing the exam questions and topics/areas covered on the examination.

C. Rules Sub-Committee

Review of Section 1270.57 – Standards of Professional Conduct  
Mr. Abbitt had no updates to share at this time and asked that it be tabled until the next meeting.

D. Laser Scanning Sub-Committee

Mr. Abbitt said that the sub-committee is working on presenting a report and said they should have it ready at the next meeting.

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**VII. New Business**

- A. NCEES Central Zone Meeting Report
- Mr. Abbitt shared that the Central Zone meeting was held on April 29th. He provided a summary of the meeting noting that Sam Reed was elected Secretary-Treasurer, and said it was informative but was difficult to communicate with other jurisdictions since it was conducted virtually.
- B. NCEES Annual Meeting Update/delegate selection
- Mr. Lazell provided an update to the Board that each Board can now send three funded delegates due to recent easing of restrictions in place in New Orleans and CDC guidelines. He reminded the members that the meeting will be consist solely of the official business sessions and there will be no break-out sessions or other amenities.
- He requested the Board member names who would function as the delegates for the Board.
- After discussion, Mr. Hake and Ms. Lyons indicated they would be willing to attend as the PLS Board delegates.
- C. Discussion of using the NCEES Surveying Education Standard/IPLSA Rule amendment recommendation
- Mr. Lazell said he initially intended to present a proposal to the Board to consider using the NCEES Surveying Education Standard in place of the listed education criteria contained within Section 1270.15 of the Administrative Rules.
- However, after having conversations with Mr. Filipski, he requested that this item be withdrawn due to a substantial educational difference in place with the NCEES Standard.
- He instead asked the Board to review a recommendation from IPLSA. The recommendation being to modify the math requirement listed within Section 1270.15 to read:
- Mathematics (including but not limited to College Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus 1, Calculus 2, and Statistics) – 15 semester hours or successful completion of Calculus 1 (or above) and Statistics.
- The Board discussed the recommendation and the consensus was it would be advantageous for the profession to make this change, given that candidates who would use the newly added “option” would generally have had higher level math courses in order to

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take Calculus 1.

Motion was made, seconded (Sweet-Johnson/Lounsbury) and passed to accept the IPLSA Rule amendment to the math requirement and recommend to the Department to update Section 1270.15 with the IPLSA math recommendation.

Roll Call. The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**Motion to go into Closed Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Hake) and passed to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:04 am.

Roll Call.

The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**VIII. Closed Session:**

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting.

B. Application Review

One application was reviewed by the Board.

**Motion to go into Open Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lounsbury) and passed to go into Open Session at 11:22 am. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**Motion to accept Recommendations:**

Motion was made, seconded (Lounsbury/Hake) and passed to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**Motion to keep Closed Minutes closed:**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lounsbury) and passed to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**IX. Reminders**

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for July 30, 2021.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lounsbury) and passed to adjourn.

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Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.